

2009 - 2010

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Kern County

RECEIVERAND JURY

18 2000

KERN VALLEY STATE PRISON WARDEN'S OFFICE

November 11, 2009

Kelly Harrington, Warden Kern Valley State Prison p. o. Box 6000 Delano, CA 93216-6000

Distributed Copies To: Cockding Tex CMO

Dear Warden Harrington:

Enclosed please find a copy of the 2009-2010 Kern County Grand Jury report on the KERN VALLEY STATE PRISON.

Please note that Penal Code Section 933.05(f) specifically prohibits any disclosure of the contents of this report by a public agency or its officers or governing body prior to its release to the public which will occur November 19, 2009.

The Grand Jury requests that you respond in writing to the Findings and Recommendations contained in the report pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05 (copy enclosed). Penal Code Sections 933.05(a) and 933.05(b) are specific as to the format of responses. The Penal Code is also specific about the deadline for responses. You are required to submit your response to the Grand Jury within 90 days as follows:

- 1. Hard copy to: Michael B. Lewis, Presiding Judge 1415 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301
- 2. Hard copy to John C. Mainland, Foreman 2009-2010 Kern County Grand Jury Suite 600 1415 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

Responses are public records. The clerk of the public agency affected must maintain a copy of your response. Should you have any questions please contact me at 868-4793 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

John C. Mainland, Foreman

2009-2010 Kern County Grand Jury

Richard Frank, Chairman Law and Justice Committee

Enc: Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05 excerpts

CDCR

KERN VALLEY STATE PRISON

PURPOSE OF INQUIRY:

The Law and Justice Committee (Committee) of the 2009-2010 Kern County Grand Jury visited Kern Valley State Prison (KVSP) on October 20, 2009, to inquire into the condition and management of the Prison pursuant to Penal Code §919(b).

PROCESS:

The Committee met the Acting Prison Information Officer (PIO) and Assistant Warden. A brief question and answer session was conducted prior to the Committee being taken on a tour consisting of the prison grounds, Vocational/Educational facility, Pharmacy and the main kitchen.

BACKGROUND:

KVSP is a Level 4 facility consisting of four semi-autonomous facilities and two stand alone Administrative Segregation Units surrounded by a Lethal Electrified Perimeter Fence. There is also a Level I Minimum Support Facility. Facility D houses the Substance Abuse Program and will house the Transitional Housing Unit. KVSP is on 600 acres with an additional 200 acres for future use.

FINDINGS:

- 1. The population of KVSP on October 20, 2009, was 4,748 inmates. KVSP was designed to house one inmate per cell with a capacity of 2,448. In the past year KVSP's population has temporarily reached 4,800.
- 2. The kitchen facilities consist of a main kitchen and sixteen satellite facilities. Meals are prepared two to three days in advance and trucked to the satellites for distribution at meal times. KVSP provides two hot meals and a sack lunch daily.
- 3. KVSP Pharmacy has been remodeled with new cabinets and countertops allowing for more workable space. The pharmacy now employs four pharmacists and eight pharmacy technicians. The State of California Guardian System (computer software) is now in place to track discarded pills and enables medical records to follow the inmate if transferred to another facility.
- 4. Due to State of California budget constraints the Educational/Vocational training programs have been cut by approximately 60%. Eleven of the twenty-one employees have received layoff notices. Programs being cut are Adult Basic Education, Janitorial, Landscaping and Graphic Arts. Programs continuing are Auto Mechanic, Welding and Small Engine Repair.

5. Other programs and services being cut due to budget constraints include Substance Abuse Program and inmate visiting hours.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

. . . .

When funding becomes available Educational/Vocational Programs should be reinstated as a first priority.

Kern Valley State Prison should post a copy of this report where it will be available for public review.

Note: Present and past Kern County Grand Jury Final Reports and Responses can be accessed through the Kern County Grand Jury website: www.cc.kern.ca.us/grandjury

Persons wishing to receive an email notification of newly released reports may sign up at click on: Sign up for early releases. www.co.kern.ca.us/grandjury

RESPONSE REQUIRED WITHIN 90 DAYS TO:

PRESIDING JUDGE KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE 2ND FLOOR BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

cc: FOREMAN
KERN COUNTY GRAND JURY
1415 TRUXTUN AVENUE, SUITE 600
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

DIVISION OF ADULT INSTITUTIONS KERN VALLEY STATE PRISON

P.O. Box 6000 Delano, CA 93216-6000

November 20, 2009



Michael B. Lewis, Presiding Judge 1415 Truxton Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

Dear Honorable Judge Lewis,

This is in response to the letter I received dated, November 11, 2009, concerning the 2009-2010 Kern County Grand Jury report on Kern Valley State Prison. The following is submitted in response to the aforementioned letter:

- Per California Penal Code Section 933 (a), Kern Valley State Prison agrees with the findings located in the Kern County Grand Jury's report for 2009 -2010.
- Per California Penal Code Section 933 (b), Kern Valley State Prison agrees with the recommendation that when funding becomes available Educational/Vocational Programs should be reinstated as a first priority. However, at the present time there is no time schedule to determine when these funds may become available.
- Kern Valley State Prison has implemented the recommendation that the Kern County Grand Jury's report be posted where it is available for public view.
 Kern Valley State Prison has posted the report on Institution Bulletin Boards, placed in the In Service Training Bulletin, and scanned a copy to be viewed on Institutional computers.

Please contact Lieutenant Jeff Smith, Administrative Assistant/Public Information Officer should you have concerns/questions at (661) 721-6314.

Sincerely,

KELLY HARRINGTON

Warden (A)

Kern Valley State Prison

cc: John C. Mainland, Foreman 2009-2010 Kern County Grand Jury Suite 600 1415 Truxton Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301